

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 13, 2003

LB 407

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Debate does cease. Senator Dwite Pedersen, you're recognized to close on your amendment, AM1778, to LB 407. Senator Dwite Pedersen.

SENATOR DW. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I'd like to have a call of the house before I...and I can go on from that if it's...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Been a request for a call of the house. All in favor of the house going under call vote aye, opposed nay. Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 31 ayes, 0 nays to place the house under call.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The house is under call. All unauthorized personnel please leave the floor. Unexcused senators report to the Chamber. The house is under call. Senator Pedersen, you may continue. As you know, your time is rolling.

SENATOR DW. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. President. First of all, I want to mention again that this facility does give me kind of a heartache because it's one of my favorite facilities. But because of the cost and the number of inmates, it was the facility that best fit into the plans that I had for this amendment. I also want to speak a little bit about what Senator Stuhr said. This is not anything new. The approach that was brought about was new, or was the same approach other people used but it was new for this issue. Senator Chambers mentioned many times about that we have to make the decisions, and that I agree with. Senator Stuhr and other senators in this body have been through many of these facilities with me. We've talked about this many, many times. What are we going to do? We need to do something. And this is that move of doing something. We can't expect the agency to do anything else but to protect their dynasty. That's why it didn't take very long to have at least three of the top prison officials back behind the glass. It is not their job to cut unless they are told to by their boss, the Governor, and that administration. And if they don't want to come up with these ideas, then it is our job. And I think it's